



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Nikolaus
Serial No. : 10/758,842
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Examiner : F. D. Lopez

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Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In the above-identified application for United States patent,
please amend as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims
which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 6 of this paper.